

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for creating a locally managed instance of a printer on a host computer which communicates print data to the printer over a peer-to-peer network, comprising the steps of:

selecting an option ~~within an operating system~~ of the host computer to create a locally managed instance of the printer on the host computer, wherein the locally managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing a configuration of the printer at the host computer;

[[a]] the user inputting an identifier of the printer, including a communication address of the printer, to be installed on the host computer;

in response to the user inputting the identifier including the communication address of the printer, the host computer obtaining printer type information via a network by communicating with the printer using the input identifier, and determining, ~~from the input identifier,~~ the printer type from the obtained printer type information;

based on the determined printer type information ~~and the input identifier,~~ the host computer automatically obtaining printer configuration information and print driver information;

the host computer automatically configuring the printer and installing a print driver for the printer based on the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information; and

the host computer creating the locally managed instance of the printer on the host computer and setting up the host computer by using the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information.

wherein the locally managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing the configuration of the local printer at the host computer.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~identifier~~ communication address is a network address of the printer.

3. (Original) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the network address is an IP address.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the identifier is a DNS name.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the identifier is a NetBios name.

6. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the printer is a virtual printer.

7. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the printer configuration information and the print driver information are automatically obtained from a remote device on the network.

8. (Original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the remote device is an FTP server.

9. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising automatically creating a port for communication with the printer.

10. (Currently Amended) Computer-executable process steps stored on a computer-readable medium, the process step for creating a locally managed instance of a printer on a host computer which communicates print data to the printer over a peer-to-peer network, comprising the steps of:

selecting an option ~~within an operating system~~ of the host computer to create a locally managed instance of the printer on the host computer, wherein the locally managed instance provide a user with the capability of changing a configuration of the printer at the host computer;

[[a]] the user inputting an identifier of the printer, including a communication address of the printer, to be installed on the host computer;

in response to the user inputting the identifier including the communication address of the printer, the host computer obtaining printer type information via a network

by communicating with the printer using the input identifier, and determining, from the input identifier, the printer type from the obtained printer type information;

based on the determined printer type information ~~and the input identifier~~, the host computer automatically obtaining printer configuration information and print driver information;

the host computer automatically configuring the printer and installing a print driver for the printer based on the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information; and

the host computer creating the locally managed instance of the printer on the host computer and setting up the host computer by using the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information.

wherein the locally managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing the configuration of the local printer at the host computer.

11. (Currently Amended) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 10, wherein the ~~identifier~~ communication address is a network address of the printer.

12. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 11, wherein the network address is an IP address.

13. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 10, wherein the identifier is a DNS name.

14. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 10, wherein the identifier is a NetBios name.

15. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 10, wherein the printer is a virtual printer.

16. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 10, wherein the printer configuration information and the print driver information are automatically obtained from a remote device on the network.

17. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 16, wherein the remote device is an FTP server.

18. (Original) Computer-executable process steps according to Claim 10 further comprising automatically creating a port for communication with the printer.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium on which are stored computer-executable process steps for creating a locally managed instance of a printer on a host computer which communicates print data to the printer over a peer-to-peer network, the computer-executable process steps comprising the steps of:

selecting an option ~~within an operating system~~ of the host computer to create a locally managed instance of the printer on the host computer, wherein the locally

managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing a configuration of the printer at the host computer;

[[a]] the user inputting an identifier of the printer, including a communication address, to be installed on the host computer;

in response to the user inputting the identifier including the communication address of the printer, the host computer obtaining printer type information via a network by communicating with the printer using the input identifier, and determining, from the input identifier, the printer type from the obtained printer type information;

based on the determined printer type information and the input identifier, the host computer automatically obtaining printer configuration information and print driver information;

the host computer automatically configuring the printer and installing a print driver for the printer based on the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information; and

the host computer creating the locally managed instance of the printer on the host computer and setting up the host computer by using the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information.

wherein the locally managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing the configuration of the local printer at the host computer.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 19, wherein the ~~identifier~~ communication address is a network address of the printer.

21. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 20, wherein the network address is an IP address.

22. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 19, wherein the identifier is a DNS name.

23. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 19, wherein the identifier is a NetBios name.

24. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 19, wherein the printer is a virtual printer.

25. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 19, wherein the printer configuration information and the print driver information are automatically obtained from a remote device on the network.

26. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25, wherein the remote device is an FTP server.

27. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 19 further comprising automatically creating a port for communication with the printer.

28. (Currently Amended) An computer apparatus which communicates print data to a printer over a peer-to-peer network, comprising:

- a processor for executing computer-executable process steps; and
- a memory on which the computer-executable process steps are stored, the process steps for creating a locally managed instance of the printer on the computer apparatus comprising the steps of (a) selecting an option ~~within an operating system~~ of the computer apparatus to create a locally managed instance of the printer on the computer apparatus, wherein the locally managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing a configuration of the printer at the host computer, (b) ~~[[a]]~~ the user inputting an identifier of the printer, including a communication address of the printer, to be installed on the host computer, (c) in response to the user inputting the identifier including the communication address of the printer, the computer apparatus obtaining printer type information via a network by communicating with the printer using the input identifier, and determining, from the input identifier, the printer type from the obtained printer type information, (d) based on the determined printer type information ~~and the input identifier~~, the computer apparatus automatically obtaining printer configuration information and print driver information, (e) the computer apparatus automatically configuring the printer and installing a print driver for the printer based on the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information, and (f) the computer apparatus creating the locally managed instance of the printer and setting up the computer apparatus by using the obtained printer configuration information and print driver information, wherein the locally managed instance provides a user with the capability of changing the configuration of the local printer at the host computer.

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the ~~identifier~~ communication address is a network address of the printer.

30. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 29, wherein the network address is an IP address.

31. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the identifier is a DNS name.

32. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the identifier is a NetBios name.

33. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the printer is a virtual printer.

34. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the printer configuration information and the print driver information are automatically obtained from a remote device on the network.

35. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the remote device is an FTP server.

36. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 28 further comprising automatically creating a port for communication with the printer.

37. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

managing means for managing a database which manages device driver information corresponding to a peripheral device, configuration information of the device driver, and information indicating a type of the peripheral device;

input means for a user to input an identifier, including a communication address, of a peripheral device to be installed on the information processing apparatus;

obtaining means for obtaining information indicating ~~[[a]]~~ the type of ~~[[a]]~~ the peripheral device ~~in accordance with communication~~ by communicating with the peripheral device by using the input identifier;

first determination means for determining device driver information corresponding to the peripheral device by using said information indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining means by referring to the database using the information obtained by the obtaining means;

second determination means for determining configuration information of the device driver information corresponding to the peripheral device by using said information indicating the type of the peripheral device by referring to the database using the information obtained by the obtaining means; and

execution means for executing an install process for the device driver information by using the device driver information determined by the first determination

~~means and said configuration information determined by the second determination means,~~
~~wherein said obtaining means obtains said information indicating the type of~~
~~the peripheral device which is output from a firmware of the peripheral device,~~
~~said first determination means searches a database by using said information~~
~~indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining means as a search key~~
~~for the database,~~
~~said second determination means searches the database by using said~~
~~information indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining means as~~
~~a search key for the database, and~~
~~the driver information is described in the database.~~

38. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein said configuration information ~~relating~~ relates to a port corresponding to the peripheral device which is used by the device driver information and which is registered to a memory of the information processing apparatus.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the host computer includes a database in which printer identification information and printer configuration information are managed,
during said selecting step, printer identification information is input in response to selecting a printer object, and
during said obtaining step of obtaining printer configuration information and print driver information, the database is searched and print driver information and

printer configuration information are obtained from the database by using the printer type information ~~identification information~~ as a search key, and

~~said obtaining step is executed by using an install program.~~

40. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for an information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:

managing a database which manages device driver information corresponding to a peripheral device, configuration information of the device driver, and information indicating a type of the peripheral device;

a user inputting, into the information processing apparatus, an identifier, including a communication address, of a printer to be installed on the information processing apparatus;

obtaining information indicating the [[a]] type of the [[a]] peripheral device in accordance with communication by communicating with the peripheral device by using the input identifier;

a first determination step of determining device driver information corresponding to the peripheral device by using said information indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step by referring to the database using the information obtained by the obtaining step;

a second determination step of determining configuration information of the device driver information corresponding to the peripheral device by using said information indicating the type of the peripheral device by referring to the database using the information obtained by the obtaining step; and

~~an execution step of executing an install process for the device driver information by using the device driver information determined by the first determination step and said configuration information determined by the second determination step, wherein said obtaining step obtains said information indicating the type of the peripheral device which is output from a firmware of the peripheral device, said first determination step searches a database by using said information indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step as a search key for the database, said second determination step searches the database by using said information indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step as a search key for the database, and the driver information is described in the database.~~

41. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium on which are stored computer executable process steps for a method for an information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:

managing a database which manages device driver information corresponding to a peripheral device, configuration information of the device driver, and information indicating a type of the peripheral device;

a user inputting, into the information processing apparatus, an identifier, including a communication address, of a printer to be installed on the information processing apparatus;

obtaining information indicating ~~[[a]]~~ the type of ~~[[a]]~~ the peripheral device
~~in accordance with communication~~ by communicating with the peripheral device by using
the input identifier;

a first determination step of determining device driver information
corresponding to the peripheral device by using said information indicating the type of the
peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step by referring to the database using the
information obtained by the obtaining step;

a second determination step of determining configuration information of the
device driver information corresponding to the peripheral device by using said information
indicating the type of the peripheral device by referring to the database using the
information obtained by the obtaining step; and

an execution step of executing an install process for the device driver
information by using the device driver information determined by the first determination
step ~~and said configuration information determined by the second determination step~~;

~~wherein said obtaining step obtains said information indicating the type of~~
~~the peripheral device which is output from a firmware of the peripheral device~~;

~~said first determination step searches a database by using said information~~
~~indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step as a search key~~
~~for the database~~;

~~said second determination step searches the database by using said~~
~~information indicating the type of the peripheral device obtained by the obtaining step as a~~
~~search key for the database~~; and

~~the driver information is described in the database.~~

42. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for a computer which communicates with ~~the~~ a printer, comprising the steps of:

managing a database in which print driver information of the printer, printer ~~identification~~ type information and printer configuration information corresponding to the print driver for a communication with the printer are managed;

receiving ~~the~~ printer identification information of the printer in response to selecting a printer object implemented by a graphical user interface;

in response to receiving the printer identification information, obtaining a type of said printer by communicating with the printer, and obtaining said printer configuration information for the communication and print driver information managed in the database by using the ~~received identifier~~ obtained printer type information as a search key for the database;

installing a print driver; and

configuring ~~[[a]]~~ the print driver to set up the communication configuration information for the communication based on the obtained printer configuration information for the communication and the print driver information.

43. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus which communicates with a printer, comprising:

management means for managing a database in which print driver information of the printer, printer ~~identification~~ type information and printer configuration information corresponding to the print driver for a communication with the printer are managed;

receiving means for receiving ~~the~~ printer identification information of the printer in response to selecting a printer object implemented by a graphical user interface;

obtaining means for, in response to receiving the printer identification information, obtaining a type the printer by communicating with the printer, and obtaining said printer configuration information for the communication and print driver information managed in the database by using the ~~received identifier~~ obtained printer type information as a search key for the database;

an installer for installing a print driver; and

configuration means for configuring ~~[[a]]~~ the print driver to set up the communication configuration information for the communication based on the obtained printer configuration information for the communication and the print driver information.

44. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium on which is stored computer executable process steps for a method for a computer which communicates with ~~the~~ a printer, comprising the steps of:

managing a database in which print driver information of the printer, printer identification type information and printer configuration information corresponding to the print driver for a communication with the printer are managed;

receiving ~~the~~ printer identification information of the printer in response to selecting a printer object implemented by a graphical user interface;

in response to receiving the printer identification information, obtaining a type of said printer by communicating with the printer, and obtaining said printer configuration information for the communication and print driver information managed in

the database by using the ~~received identifier~~ obtained printer type information as a search key for the database;

installing a print driver; and

configuring [[a]] the print driver to set up the communication configuration information for the communication based on the obtained printer configuration information for the communication and the print driver information.